WHO consultations with grassroots communities and civil society to strengthen engagement to End TB

Social listening and community feedback for UNHLM TB 2023:

GLOBAL TOOLBOX FOR CONSIDERATION/ADAPTATION

Background

Communities and their representatives as well as civil society organizations are important partners for national TB programmes. Despite the progress to work with communities as valued partners, much still needs to be done to achieve meaningful engagement of communities in efforts to end TB in line with the End TB Strategy. Community and civil society engagement need to be strengthened through involving people affected by TB in decision-making, promoting sustainable financing for operational and advocacy activities, facilitating ways and means that communities can contribute to the people-centered TB response, multisectoral engagement and monitoring and evaluation of the TB programme.

The 2020 UN Secretary-General progress report on the Political Declaration of the 2018 United Nations High-Level Meeting (UNHLM) on TB emphasizes the need to strengthen engagement with affected communities and civil society in efforts to end TB; the report also requests WHO to continue to provide global leadership for the TB response and in preparation for the UNHLM on TB, taking place in September 2023 (exact date to be confirmed). Furthermore, at the 22nd meeting of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Tuberculosis (STAG-TB), WHO was requested to ensure close engagement with affected communities and civil society in strategic preparations for the 2023 UNHLM on TB and beyond, in close collaboration with the WHO Civil Society Task Force on TB.

The interactive multi-stakeholder hearing is part of the preparatory process for the UNHLM. It aims to solicit views of all stakeholders including community and civil society vision and recommendations to members of the UN General-Assembly for the high-level meeting. It will take place before June, and likely in late April or early May 2023, at the United Nations in New York, US.

The WHO Civil Society Task Force on TB provides a platform for discussion and exchange with WHO, building on the commitment of the Director-General, with an emphasis on harnessing the potential for engagement with civil society and affected communities at all levels.

Objectives

The planned WHO (virtual, hybrid, or in person) consultations aim to strengthen engagement with affected communities and civil society in efforts to end TB, and in particular center their voices in preparation of the 2023 UNHLM on TB. These will be convened in WHO regions, and in selected countries, using a globally harmonized approach aiming at a united voice. The outcomes will be used by
the WHO Civil Society Task Force for TB to report back in various platforms including in the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing. The objectives of the WHO consultation are to:

i. solicit views by communities and civil society at the grassroots level on their perceived needs and priorities in local and national efforts to end TB;

ii. document key community and civil society inputs, recommendations, priorities and asks for UNHLM.

iii. strengthen engagement between WHO, national TB programme and grassroots communities and civil society as a key stakeholder in TB response.

Planning and event overview

• The 60-120-minute (1-2 hours) consultation
• Virtual (or hybrid or in person) event
• To access the flyer template to promote the webinar in case of a virtual event, click HERE.
• Event can be promoted through a mailing list of stakeholders: CCM, national partnership, regional/national community platform for TB, key partners engaging with communities, etc.
• The event will aim to engage grassroots level communities and CSOs through snowball approach (local CSOs and CBOs will be requested to share views using their network).
• The event will aim to use local languages where applicable and translation so that all can share their views.
• The event will be planned in discussion with relevant stakeholders.
• The event will be co-moderated by WHO and a community representative.
• Members of WHO Civil Society Task Force on TB can be contacted to engage in the event as listed below with in their respective regions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (gender)</th>
<th>WHO Region</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Contact email</th>
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</table>

• Audience participation can be encouraged
• Kindly record the event (if virtual or hybrid)
Zoom link for participants

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Generic agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date xxxx, Time xxxx</th>
<th>Welcome</th>
<th>WHO TB leadership, Community representative</th>
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</table>
| (5 minutes)          | • Moderator welcome participants  
                     • Moderator lays out the ground rules, asks for permission to record the event, elaborates on the overview of the event and expected engagements from the participants | |
| (10 minutes)         | High-level opening remarks  
                     • To access UNHLM 2023 slides, click HERE | WHO RD/WR, WHO HQ, Community representative |
| (10 minutes)         | Setting the scene: Meaningful engagement with affected communities and civil society is key to end TB  
                     • To access community engagement slides, click HERE  
                     • Region-/country-specific slides: regional/country profile (available HERE), key challenges, key strategies, roles of communities and civil society, key ask | |
| (10 minutes)         | Q&A | All |
|                      | Open dialogue responding to below questions:  
1. **What progress has been made to ensure systematic engagement of communities and civil society in decision making, implementation, M&E (list max. 3 priorities) to end TB?**  
2. **What are the key barriers and opportunities for strong community engagement in TB response in your community?**  
3. **Going forward, what must stakeholders (eg. community, decision makers, funders, etc) do to accelerate the strengthening of community engagement in your setting and how should this be measured?**  
4. **What are the top three priorities to ensure high-quality people-centered TB care in your setting? How can communities/civil society contribute towards addressing them?** |
5. What statements / commitments would like to see in the 2023 Political Declaration on TB?

| (60 minutes) | • Moderator sets the scene to initiate the dialogue and discussion using Q&A to discuss key questions to lead the discussion.  
• Moderator talks the participants through the 4 key questions to steer the discussion (with a use of a powerpoint slide); 10-15 minutes for each question:  
1. What progress has been made to ensure systematic engagement of communities and civil society in decision making, implementation, M&E (list max. 3 priorities) to end TB?  
2. What are the key barriers and opportunities for strong community engagement in TB response in your community?  
3. Going forward, what must stakeholders (eg. community, decision makers, funders, etc) do to accelerate the strengthening of community engagement in your setting, and how should this be measured?  
4. What are the top three priorities to ensure high-quality people-centered TB care in your setting? How can communities/civil society contribute towards addressing them?  
5. What statements / commitments would like to see in the 2023 Political Declaration on TB?  
   • Moderator selects powerful commentators from Q&A to expand verbally  
   • Moderator comments on the inputs from the Q&A and invites relevant colleagues/partners to comment  
   • Moderator thanks everyone for their excellent inputs and rich discussion <placeholder for ppt slides with the questions> |

Next steps

| (15 minutes) | • Moderated discussion on commitments coming out of the webinar and/or joint statement and/or call for action – as appropriate. |
| (10 minutes) | (10 minutes buffer in case the event runs overtime) |
| Close | |

Event report (for sharing with HQ)

- To access template for reporting, click [HERE](#).
- Kindly share the report and the event recording (if virtual/hybrid) as soon as possible following the event (if possible within 3 working days).